## THE CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

1. A switch configuration for use with a keyboard comprising:

at least one first support structure having a plurality of apertures disposed therethrough;

at least one second support structure positioned adjacent the first support structure;

a plurality of first dome switches positioned on the first support structure in spaced relation to one another;

a plurality of second dome switches positioned on the second support structure in spaced relation to one another, each of said second dome switches being aligned with one of the plurality of apertures in the first support structure.

2. The switch configuration of claim 1, wherein the first support structure is positioned above and spaced from the second support structure in substantially parallel relation.

3. The switch configuration of claim 1, wherein the first dome switches are arranged in an evenly spaced grid on the first support structure and the second dome switches are arranged in an evenly spaced grid on the second support structure.

4. The switch configuration of claim 1, wherein the first support structure is a printed circuit board and the second support structure is a printed circuit board.

5. The switch configuration of claim 1, further comprising at least one spacer positioned between the first support structure and the second support structure.

6. A keyboard comprising:

the switch configuration of claim 1; and

a plurality of keys, with each key having an upper contact surface and a lower surface, with an actuator extending outwardly from the lower surface toward the first and

second support structures, wherein each actuator is associated with one of the plurality of dome switches.

7. The keyboard of claim 6, wherein the plurality of keys includes a first subset of keys associated with the first dome switches and a second subset of keys associated with the second dome switches.

8. The keyboard of claim 6, wherein the actuator is a post that extends downwardly from the lower surface of each key.

9. The keyboard of claim 8, wherein each post associated with the first subset of keys has a first length and each post associated with the second subset of keys has a second length, and the second length is greater than the first length.

10. The keyboard of claim 6, wherein at least one of the actuators extends through the apertures disposed in the first support structure for association with the second dome switches.

11. The keyboard of claim 10, wherein each actuator is associated with a single dome switch, with some of the actuators being associated with the first dome switches and some of the actuators being associated with the second dome switches.

12. The keyboard of claim 10, wherein the actuators have a length configured to activate the respective first or second dome switches upon depression of the key upper contact surface.

13. The keyboard of claim 6, wherein the plurality of keys includes at least 26 keys, said keys being associated with alphabetic characters "A-Z".

14. The keyboard of claim 13, wherein the plurality of keys is further associated with numbers "0-9".

15. A mobile communication device comprising:

a housing having an outer surface and an inner surface;

a display; and

the keyboard of claim 6, wherein each of the keys is associated with the outer surface of the housing and the first and second support structures and first and second dome switches are associated with the inner surface of the housing.

16. A switch configuration for use with a keyboard comprising:

a plurality of support structures positioned adjacent each other in spaced relation;

a plurality of dome switches, with at least one dome switch being coupled to each of the plurality of support structures.

17. The switch configuration of claim 16, wherein the plurality of support structures are arranged vertically in parallel relation to one another.

18. The switch configuration of claim 17, wherein the support structures have a left side and a right side, and the plurality of dome switches are each positioned on a right side of the respective support structures.

19. The switch configuration of claim 16, wherein the plurality of support structures are printed circuit boards.

20. A mobile communication device comprising:

a housing;

a display;

a keyboard comprising a plurality of keys; and

the switch configuration of claim 16, wherein each of the dome switches is associated with at least one of the keys.

21. The mobile communication device of claim 20, wherein each of the plurality of keys comprises an upper contact surface and a lower surface, with an actuator coupled to the lower surface and extending outwardly toward the dome switches.

22. The mobile communication device of claim 21, wherein the actuator is a post with a ball coupled to the end of the post, said ball configured for actuation of the associated dome switch when the key is depressed.